



# Mawnan CE VA School Newsletter

*Using our God-given talents to let our light shine*



**Our core Christian Values: *Compassion, Hope, Peace, Perseverance, Respect, Trust***

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Welcome Back!

We hope you all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break.

It has been a pleasure to welcome everyone back to school this week. The children have returned with great enthusiasm and positivity, they seem to have grown considerably over the holidays!

Everyone has settled back into the school routines exceptionally well and have embraced their new learning expeditions with curiosity and energy. Classrooms are already alive with activity and excitement, and it is clear that this term promises to be both productive and full of joy

We have a short but eventful term ahead, with many opportunities for creativity, discovery and celebration. We look forward to a busy and successful Summer Term, filled with learning, growth and memorable experiences for all.

## **Adventure Playground**

Our adventure playground is now back in action, much to the delight of the children. It has been wonderful to see them making the most of this much-loved space, enjoying active play, building friendships and developing their confidence through a range of imaginative and physical activities. The adventure playground continues to be a valuable part of our provision, supporting both wellbeing and social development.

## **Planters**

You may have noticed that we now have new planters by the school gate. These have been kindly funded by the Parish Council to enhance the entrance to the school and to help prevent cars from parking on the kerbs, improving safety for everyone at the start and end of the day.

We are now looking forward to planting them up and would like to create an attractive, welcoming display using hardy, low-maintenance plants that will thrive throughout the year. Children who attend our wraparound provision are very keen to be involved in the planting.

To support this, we are seeking the help of any keen and experienced gardeners who may be willing to offer advice or lend a hand. We would also be very grateful for any suitable plant donations.

If you feel you could help in any way, please do get in touch with the school office.

## **Toys or personal items**

A polite reminder that children should not bring toys or personal items from home into school unless these have been specifically requested or part of a child's learning plan. This helps to prevent items from being lost or damaged and ensures that children remain focused on their learning.

## Egyptians: Pico and Fusion

Dr Scmit (Fusion) and Professor Jones (Pico) performed a real-life demonstration in how to mummify an Ancient Egyptian (William and Ella)!! They learned that the Ancient Egyptians preserved the body so the soul could live on after death, This involved:

- Organs removed: brain taken out through the nose; other organs stored in canopic jars
- Body dried using salt to remove moisture
- Body cleaned and stuffed to keep a lifelike shape
- Wrapped in linen bandages, often with protective amulets



We can confirm against all odds (and several layers of linen), William and Ella have successfully survived their journey through mummification!





Pico class then continued to mummify tomatoes. The mummification process took the Ancient Egyptians 70 days, but Pico class are going to wait two weeks. They will write an explanation text on the process, predict what they think will happen and then weigh the tomatoes to see if the weight has increased or decreased.



## How to Mummify a Tomato

Have you ever wanted to mummify like an Ancient Egyptian?  
Well now is your chance.  
Read on to discover how to mummify a tomato.



Here is a list of things that will help you:

- A tomato
- Antibacterial hand wash
- Natron (Table salt and bicarbonate of soda)  
(Table salt works just as well on it's own)
- A zip seal bag or container
- A knife
- A spoon

Instructions:

1. Make a small incision in the tomato using a knife and scoop out the seeds inside using a spoon.
2. Next, throw the insides in the bin.
3. Then, using your fingers, rub the tomato inside and out with the antibacterial hand wash. This will kill any nasty germs that may be lurking inside the tomato.
4. Weigh your mummy and write down the pre-mummification weight.
5. Next, half fill the tomato with salt. You can use a spoon, or your finger to do this.
6. Then with a spoon, fill the rest of the tomato with bicarbonate of soda or salt.
7. Place your stuffed tomato inside a zip seal bag.
8. Finally, put a few spoonfuls of salt in the zip seal bag. This will preserve the tomato.

Ancient Egyptians would have to wait 70 days to be able to complete their mummification process, but we are going to wait for two weeks. What do you think will happen to the body? After 20 days weigh your tomato again. Has the weight increased or decreased?

Some of the pupils seems to particularly like the "brains" removal!



## Statutory Primary Assessment Dates

As we are rapidly progressing through the year, we wanted to share key statutory assessment dates, so families are aware and can help support good attendance on these important days. We kindly ask that, wherever possible, holidays and other absences are not arranged during this time. These assessments are an important part of your child's education, helping us understand their progress and ensure they receive the support they need moving forward.

**Key Stage 2 Tests (Year 6)** will take place during the week beginning **Monday 11 May 2026**. The timetable is as follows:

- Monday 11 May – English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (Papers 1 and 2)
- Tuesday 12 May – English Reading
- Wednesday 13 May – Mathematics (Papers 1 and 2)
- Thursday 14 May – Mathematics (Paper 3)

**Multiplication Tables Check (Year 4)** will take place between **Monday 1 June and Friday 12 June 2026**.

**Phonics Screening Check (Year 1)** will take place during the week beginning **Monday 8 June 2026**.

## Key Dates to remember 2025/2026

Date	Event
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 Junior Life Skills, Falmouth Fire Station
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Dart Class - Hall for Cornwall
11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Key Stage 2 Tests
1 <sup>st</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Elemental Beach Trip
17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 & 5 Camp to BF Adventure
24 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Camp to Porthpean
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Sports Day
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day (reserve day)

## Term Dates 2025/2026

Date	Event
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday Monday
25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> May	May Half Term
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Inset Day 3
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Return to School
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Last Day of School
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Inset Day 4
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Inset Day 5

## School Uniform

A gentle reminder that children should wear black shoes on non-PE days. Socks should be plain white or grey, in line with our school uniform expectations. Thank you for your continued support.

Uniform
Grey knee-length pinafore, skirt, trousers or shorts Pale blue polo shirt <b>Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo (from Castle Sports)</b> Grey or white socks or navy or grey tights Black School shoes (no high boots or open toed sandals) Navy blue and white gingham dress for summer wear
PE Uniform - to be worn on PE days.
Top : <b>White P.E. shirt with school logo (from Castle Sports) with Mawnan zipped sports top (from Castle Sports)</b> Bottom: <b>Navy blue shorts (from Castle Sports), Navy blue Skort (from Castle Sports) or Mawnan tracksuit trousers (from Castle Sports)</b>

# Term Dates 2026/2027

## Cornwall Council

2026/27 School Term Dates for Community and Voluntary-Controlled Schools



September 2026					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

October 2026					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

November 2026						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2026					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	31
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

January 2027					
Mon		4	11	18	25
Tue		5	12	19	26
Wed		6	13	20	27
Thurs		7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	3	10	17	24	31

February 2027					
Mon		1	8	15	22
Tue		2	9	16	23
Wed		3	10	17	24
Thurs		4	11	18	25
Fri		5	12	19	26
Sat		6	13	20	27
Sun		7	14	21	28

March 2027					
Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tue	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	31
Thurs	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	14	21	28	

April 2027					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	30
Sun	4	11	18	25	

May 2027						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thurs		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2027					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	30
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

July 2027					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

August 2027						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

### School holidays

### Bank holidays

Christmas Day	25 December 2026
Boxing Day	28 December 2026
New Years Day	01 January 2027
Good Friday	26 March 2027
Easter Monday	29 March 2027
May Bank Holiday	03 May 2027
Spring Bank Holiday	31 May 2027
Summer Bank Holiday	30 August 2027

### AUTUMN TERM (72 days)

3 September - 18 December 2026  
(HALF TERM 26 - 30 October 2026)

### SPRING TERM (54 days)

4 January - 25 March 2027  
(HALF TERM 15 - 19 February 2027)

### SUMMER TERM (69 days)

12 April - 23 July 2027  
(HALF TERM 31 May - 4 June 2027)

195 days are included on the school calendar. Schools will be open to pupils for 190 days. The five additional days are allotted for In-Service Training (INSET). Schools allocate their own INSET days.

**Academy, trust and voluntary-aided schools set their own term dates and INSET days.**

## INSET Days – Academic Year 2026–2027

Staff training (INSET) days will take place on:

- Thursday 3rd September
- Friday 4th September
- Monday 7th June
- Tuesday 8th June
- Wednesday 9th June

Families who feel they may need to take a holiday during term time are encouraged to consider the June closure dates to help avoid pupils missing school and any potential fines.

Further information will be shared with parents in due course.

# What Parents and Educators Need to Know about Image-Altering Filters

Image-altering filters are now embedded in everyday online interactions, from playful effects to more subtle appearance-enhancing tools. This guide examines how these features can influence perceptions of beauty and reality, particularly for children and young people navigating social media. It highlights how filtered content can quietly shape expectations and online behaviours.

Focusing on risks such as low self-esteem, social pressure and hidden advertising, the guide also addresses more serious concerns like sexualised edits and blurred boundaries between real and altered images. It provides supportive, practical advice to help parents and educators build media literacy, encourage confidence and promote healthier relationships with online content.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS**

Many 'beauty' filters smooth skin, reshape facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is 'normal' or attractive, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearances.
- HIDDEN ADVERTISING**

Some filters are linked to beauty products or trends, subtly promoting third-party brands. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, while also sharing personal data – such as facial images and usage habits – with apps and third parties.
- PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT**

Filtered images can often attract more likes and positive comments. This can encourage children and young people to rely on editing tools to gain others' approval, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.
- BLURRED REALITY**

As filters become more advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish edited content from real life, especially when filters are used in everyday photos and videos.
- LOW SELF-ESTEEM**

Regularly viewing heavily filtered content can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and reduced self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.
- SEXUALISED EDITS**

Certain tools can make users appear older or more sexualised. This may attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and expose young people to unsafe interactions.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

- START OPEN CONVERSATIONS**

Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them. Ask the children and young people in your care how filtered images make them feel and encourage honest discussion without judgement.
- CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS**

When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This builds critical thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.
- REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL**

Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of real life. Emphasise that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.
- PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE**

Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, friendships, and creative interests, so that confidence isn't tied solely to online validation.

### Meet Our Expert

**Parveen Kaur** is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids in Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She is an expert contributor for Internet Matters, offering practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, TalkTV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.

**#WakeUpWednesday** **The National College**

See full reference list on our website

@wake\_up\_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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## Mental Health Support

We're pleased to share details of an upcoming online parent talk delivered by MHST and Papaya, focusing on Parenting in the Digital Age.

With increasing concerns around screen time, social media, gaming, and their potential impact on children and young people's mental health, many parents and carers are seeking practical, balanced guidance. This interactive talk aims to help find solutions that work for families.

Please find attached the poster and further information. The link to access the talk is included in the poster.

If you have any questions or would like further details, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

### **Mental Health Support Team Admin**

Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

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Our working hours are Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

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